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DE RUEHAH #0767 2001102
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
O 191102Z JUL 06
FM AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7586
INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 0433
RUEHEK/AMEMBASSY BISHKEK PRIORITY 2858
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 2928
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 0011
RUEHNT/AMEMBASSY TASHKENT PRIORITY 4967
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 0241

S E C R E T ASHGABAT 000767

SIPDIS

NOFORN SIPDIS

DEPT FOR ISN, T, EAP, AND SCA (BICKEL)

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/19/2016

TAGS: PARM ETTC PREL IR CH KN KG TX UZ

SUBJECT: TURKMENISTAN DENIES OVERFLIGHT FOR SUSPECT IRANIAN

FLIGHTS

REF: STATE 117794

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires Jennifer L. Brush, for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

(S/NF) Turkmenistan's Minister of Foreign Affairs Rashit Meredov called in Charge at 1500 (local) to inform her President Niyazov had immediately ordered the appropriate authorities to deny overflight to Iran's Pars Air Flight PRA-2331/PRA-2320. Charge had earlier delivered reftel demarche at 1130 (local). According to Meredov, President Niyazov thanked the USG for providing information on the flight. As in the June 2005 case, Meredov requested the USG keep Turkmenistan's decision confidential and not/not inform other governments of the decision. In response to Charge's question, Meredov said this decision should have no consequences for the July 24-25 visit to Turkmenistan of Iranian President Ahmadinejad.